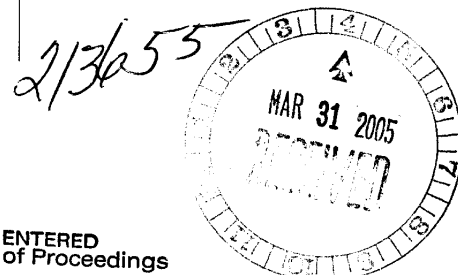




SIDNEY L. STRICKLAND, JR.
Associate General Counsel

BNSF Railway Company
700 13th Street NW, Suite 220
Washington, DC 20005-5915

Telephone: 202-347-8667
Fax: 202-347-8675
E-mail: Sidney.Strickland@BNSF.com



March 31, 2005

BY HAND DELIVERY

Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

MAR 31 2005

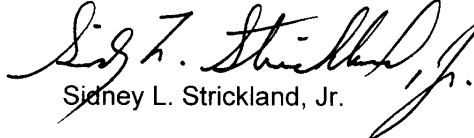
Part of
Public Record

Re: STB Docket No. NOR-42089..
Albany & Eastern Railroad Company v.
The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway
Company

Dear Secretary Williams:

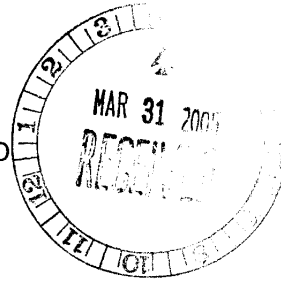
Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned proceeding are an original and ten copies of BNSF's "Fifth Unopposed Motion for Extension of Time to File Answer." Please date stamp the enclosed extra copy and return it in the enclosed self-stamped envelope.

Sincerely yours,


Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.

Enclosure

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD



ALBANY & EASTERN RAILROAD
COMPANY,

Complainant

v.

BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY,

Defendant

Docket No. NOR-42089

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

MAR 31 2005

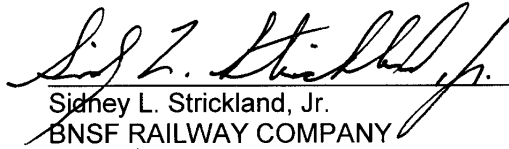
Part of
Public Record

FIFTH UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR
EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE ANSWER

On November 12, 2004, the Albany & Eastern Railroad Company ("AERC") filed a Complaint in the above-captioned proceeding seeking to commence arbitration of a dispute with The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (now named BNSF Railway Company) ("BNSF"). By decision served March 22, 2005, the Board granted BNSF's fourth request for an extension of time, to March 31, 2005, to file an answer to AERC's Complaint. BNSF needs more time to finalize its position. Accordingly, BNSF requests a further extension of time to April 14, 2005, to file an answer.

Counsel for AERC has authorized counsel for BNSF to represent that AERC does not oppose BNSF's request.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sid L. Strickland, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.
BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY
700 13th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005-5915
(202) 347-8667

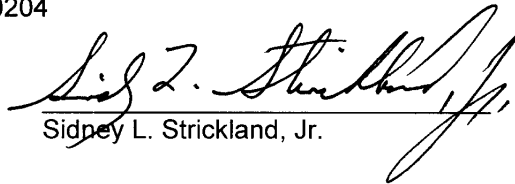
Dated: March 31, 2005

Attorney for BNSF Railway Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing "Fifth Unopposed Motion for Extension of Time to File Answer" was served by overnight courier this 31st day of March 2005 on the following:

Thomas F. McFarland
Office of Thomas F. McFarland, P.C.
208 South LaSalle Street – Suite 1890
Chicago, IL 60604-1112
312-236-0204


Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.